

IFW

03068.001200

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
NESTOR J. SANTI ET AL.

Appln. No.: 10/700,484

Filed: November 5, 2003

For: **HIGH-STRENGTH SEALED CONNECTION
FOR EXPANDABLE TUBULARS**

) Examiner: E.E. Peavey
) Group Art Unit: 3676
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) March 31, 2004
)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the March 8, 2005 Restriction Requirement, Applicant makes a provisional election of Group I (Claims 1-34 and 45-47) with traverse. Under 35 U.S.C. § 121, the Examiner must make a showing that the claimed inventions are *both* independent and distinct. The method of forming a sealed tubular joint of Group II (Claims 35-44) would appear to involve an overlapping field of search with the tubular joint structure of Group I and, therefore, the claims in the two Groups would not appear to be *both* independent and distinct.

For the foregoing reasons, the restriction requirement should be withdrawn, and a first action on the merits of all Claims 1-47 be conducted. Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone

at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

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Respectfully submitted,



Warren E. Olsen (Reg. No. 27,290)

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